

Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

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R 211440Z OCT 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3008

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0906

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT AO

SUBJ: FNLA - ANGOLAN JUNTA NEGOTIATIONS

REF: LUANDA 889, 893 AND 896

1. I HAVE OBTAINED THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT TOOK PLACE LAST WEEK IN LUANDA BETWEEN THE FNLA DELEGATION AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ANGOLAN JUNTA.

2. FIVE PRINCIPAL AREAS WERE COVERED DURING THREE NEGOTIATING SESSIONS ON OCTOBER 17 AND 18:

- A) FORMAL CEASE FIRE
- B) OPENING OF FNLA OFFICES IN ANGOLA
- C) MIXED COMMISSION TO SUPERVISE CEASE FIRE
- D) STATUS AND ACTIVITIES OF FNLA TROOPS IN ANGOLA
- E) EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS

3. THE TALKS WENT SMOOTHLY AND THERE APPEAR TO BE NO SERIOUS
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OBSTACLES TO THE SIGNING OF A FORMAL CEASE FIRE TO REPLACE THE

CURRENT CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES. THE FNLA DELEGATION TOOK BACK TO KINSHASA THE ANGOLAN JUNTA PROPOSALS AND IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO LUANDA WITH AN ANSWER WITHIN A WEEK OR TWO.

4. THE ONLY DIFFICULT POINT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WAS THAT CONCERNING THE STATUS OF FNLA TROOPS DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD UNTIL DEFINITIVE ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE WITH ALL THREE LIBERATION GROUPS. THE FNLA OFFERED TO HAVE ITS FORCES ASSIST THE PORTUGUESE TO MAINTAIN ORDER IN NORTHERN ANGOLA. THE JUNTA REPRESENTATIVES DECLINED THE OFFER AND SAID THAT FNLA TROOPS CAN STAY AND KEEP THEIR WEAPONS IF THEY DO NOT TRY TO EXPAND THEIR AREA OF OPERATIONS INSIDE ANGOLA. THEY MUST CARRY ON THEIR POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION UNARMED. THE FNLA CARRIED THESE AND A NUMBER OF OTHER CONDITIONS TO KINSHASA.

5. THE HEAD OF THE FNLA DELEGATION, HENDRIK VAAL NETO, MADE A GOOD OVERALL IMPRESSION ON THE MILITARY HERE; HE IS FROM LUANDA AND HAS TEN BROTHERS AND SISTERS, ALL OF WHOM ARE MPLA ADHERENTS. THE OTHER THREE MEMBERS OF THE FNLA DELEGATION WERE ALSO ANGOLANS WITH CLOSE TIES INSIDE THE COUNTRY.

6. MY SOURCE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE FNLA IS ANXIOUS TO OPEN AS MANY PROPAGANDA OFFICES AS QUICKLY AS IT CAN AROUND THE COUNTRY. THE ORGANIZATION HAS NO REAL SUPPORT IN ANGOLA AND ITS LEADERS WANT TO OVERCOME THIS HANDICAP SOON IN ORDER TO BE ON AN EQUAL FOOTING WITH THE MPLA AND UNITA.

7. MY SOURCE ADMITTED IT WAS THE FNLA THAT DROPPED THE ROCKETS AND GRENADES ON LUANDA ON OCTOBER TWO AND THREE (SEE LUANDA 861). THE AUTHORITIES ARRESTED SEVERAL FNLA ACTIVISTS, BUT DID NOT MAKE ANY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR FEAR OF UNDERMINING EFFORTS TO OBTAIN A CEASE FIRE.

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